

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 /033 W

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R 290930Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1129

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL NICE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EEWT ECON FR

SUBJECT: MARSEILLE RECORDS DROP IN PORT TRAFFIC FOR 1975

1. FIGURES MADE PUBLIC THIS WEEK BY MARSEILLE PORT AUTHORITIES SHOW A DROP OF 13, 374,000 TONS IN COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC FOR 1975. MARSEILLE HOWEVER REMAINS FIRST PORT OF FRANCE WITH RECORDED 95,782,000 TONS FOLLOWED BY LE HAVRE WITH 72,000,000 TONS. REDUCTION IN PETROLEUM TRAFFIC IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR DECLINE (81,404,000 TONS IN 1975 AGAINST 94,760,000 IN 1974). GENERAL CARGO SHIPMENTS TO THE RED SEA AND PERSIAN GULF INCREASED BY 18 PERCENT, DUE TO REOPENING OF SUEZ CANAL.

2. THE STATEMENT OF PIERRE BLUM, PORT PRESIDENT OF MARSEILLE, THAT PRESENT SITUATION WAS "ASSEZ BON" FAILED TO IMPRESS LOCAL ECONOMIC WRITERS. MUCH OF BLAME FOR LOWER 1975 FIGURES WAS PLACED ON "WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS". HOPE WAS EXPRESSED THAT MARSEILLE WOULD ACQUIRE MORE CONTAINERSHIP TRADE WITH NORTH AMERICAN PORTS IN NEAR FUTURE. TWO DAYS AFTER PORT PRESS CONFERENCE, MARSEILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT, JACQUES DEGUIGNES, ARRIVING LATE FOR OUR MEETING IN HIS OFFICE, BRANDISHED DOSSIER HE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING WITH AIDES AND FULMINATED REGARDING

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"CE SACRE PORT*".

SIMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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